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BOROUGH OF REDCAR.

NORTH RIDING (GUISBOROUGH) COMBINED DISTRICTS.

REPORT
for the Year 1938
of the Medical Officer of Health,
C. R. GIBSON, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Guisborough:
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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE
BOROUGH OF REDCAR.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1938, the contents and arrangement of which are in accordance with the Ministry of Health circular No. 1728.

Summaries of the vital statistics for the year will be found on page 9 and comparison with earlier periods is furnished in the table on page 33. The Registrar-General estimates that the population of the district, from mid-1937 to mid-1938, increased by 340 persons; as the gain in population, by excess of births over deaths, would appear to be about 74 persons, the balance of the increase, 266, represents the extent to which the district has benefited by immigration from other areas. The three main vital rates, birth-rate, death-rate at all ages, and infant mortality, are all above the average of the last five years, and also above those subsisting over the whole of England and Wales, but in the case of infant mortality the difference is so small as to be within the limits of chance variation:—

	Borough of Redcar.		England & Wales.
	1938.	1934—1938.	1938.
Birth-rate	16·8	15·5	15·1
Death-rate (uncorrected)	13·3	12·0	—
Death-rate (comparable)	14·5	13·1	11·6
Infant Mortality Rate ...	56	54½	53

What has been called the "uncorrected" death-rate in the above table is the ordinary figure arrived at by calculating the number of deaths of residents of the district per thousand of the estimated population. The "comparable" death-rate is obtained from this by multiplying it by the "comparability factor" a figure supplied by the Registrar-General to allow for the difference between the local distribution of the population, as to age and sex, and that of England and Wales as a whole, with the idea that the comparable rates will allow a correct comparison to be made with the death-rates of other districts or the average for the whole country. The comparability factor is based on information furnished by the census of 1931, and any change since then in the relative distribution of the population between the two sexes and different ages of the district as against the whole country will destroy the accuracy of the comparison. The Registrar-General furnishes a summary of the causes of death in those dying during the year, grouped under 34 separate specified heads. Of the male deaths, of which there were 163, the three headings to which most were assigned were: heart-disease, 31; cancer, 24; and cerebral haemorrhage, 14; in the 149 deaths of females, the same three causes headed the list: heart-disease with 32; cancer, 28; and cerebral haemorrhage, 16. These three diseases were responsible for some 40% of the male deaths, and 50% of the female deaths. After these the relative importance of causes of death is not quite the same in the two sexes. Among males there are four more causes each responsible for more than 5 fatalities: violence (not self-inflicted), 12; "other" circulatory disorders, 11; pneumonia, 7; and congenital debility of infants, premature birth, etc, 7. In the female deaths the further causes each leading to over 5 deaths are three: old age, 8; pulmonary tuberculosis, 8; and pneumonia, 7. There are therefore six or seven leading causes of death which between them are responsible for almost two-thirds of the year's mortality in either sex, and it is only in the lowest two of these in either case that public health efforts can so far be said to have been in action.

The birth-rate for the year is up compared both with the local average for the last five years and with last years' average over the whole country, but it shares with the latter a much diminished size when compared with the birth-rates at the beginning of this century. Some excuse seems necessary, in a report on the health of a community, for referring at any length to a decline in the number of births, since any effect of that on health is not at once obvious. It cannot be denied, however, that, if the same decline is general and continuing, it will have an effect ultimately on the existence of the nation, and I would suggest further that health and well-being depend not only on the physical environment—food, clothing, housing, and freedom from disease-producing germs—but also on the less definite environment that affects the mind and feelings. A child brought up among other children is more normal in health than one whose mental, emotional and spiritual outlook is coloured only by association with people comparatively or frankly old. Physical health of a community, if it means mere freedom from bodily disease, is not enough: there must also be vigour, energy, eagerness to do and dare, if the well-being of the community is truly to be conserved.

Attention has repeatedly been directed to the gravity of the great fall in the birth-rate but no apparent heed has been paid to the warnings. In the first place the gloomy prophecies of depopulation of this country are dated so far ahead as not to interest us greatly, and they relate to the nation as a whole while the particular concern of our corner of it is not apparent.

Secondly, notwithstanding the jeremiads, there are still more births than deaths, and, while that is so, it is difficult to believe in a fall of population that has not yet happened and may never do so. And thirdly, supposing it is all true, what can be done about it? How can the easy movement downhill be brought to a stand and converted again into an upward climb?

I would direct your attention to the fact that, owing to the fall in the birth-rate, already operative before the war, but showing a steep, almost sudden, drop after, the make-up of the population, as between the different ages, has already been radically changed. Taking the combined districts as a whole—and the figures for this district do not differ very much—in 1901 the census showed that children under 15 years of age formed 35% of the bulk of the population, and, taking the age of 45 as approaching the end of full vigour in both sexes, persons 45 years old or over constituted 19·4% of the population. The 1931 census in these districts gave 26·6% of the population as under 15 years of age, and 28·8% 45 years old or over. At the beginning of the present century the local population included nearly twice as many children as old people—with apologies for classing all persons 45 years old or over as 'old.' Before the century had one-third run its course there were more old people than children. It is eight years now since that census was taken but contributory evidence shows that the change has continued and at no slackened rate. I note that children on the school register in the North Riding numbered 44,734 at the end of 1914, and 36,886 on the 31st March, 1937. Can we look forward to converting our playgrounds for children into resting-places for the aged, or our superfluous schools into houses for the old and infirm?

The second reason I gave for general unconcern over the fall that has occurred in the birth-rate is that, up to now, the births have always outnumbered the deaths, and that therefore the population is still increasing and everything is all right. The annual takings of a business may be greater than the outgoing payments and yet, unfortunately, the business may be bankrupt: it may have undischarged liabilities that no attempt is made to meet, and some of the receipts should properly be assigned to transactions of previous years. Similar considerations may apply to a population, with an income of births, derived from women of child-bearing age whose ranks are no longer being recruited to the same extent, and which is increasing its numbers of aged persons. Imagine a community of ants where the average life of the individual ant is exactly one year, and 6,000 ants are born throughout each year: we would conclude, after a little thought, that the population of that ant-heap would tend to be 6,000. Similarly if the average life of each ant were two years, and there were 3,000 born annually, again we would say that the average population would be 6,000. If we extend the fancy to a community where the mean span of life was 60 years, we see that it would need a steady 100 births each year to arrive at and maintain a population of 6,000. Life insurance companies are interested in the duration of life and there has been worked out for them the "expectation of life" or the average duration of life that would follow if the death-rates prevailing in a certain period remain constant: e.g. the expectation of life (at birth) for a man according to the English Life-Tables of 1910-12 was 51·5 years; that is, subject to the death-rates current in England for different ages in that period, the average duration of life for a man, from birth to death, would be 51½ years. This figure, the expectation of life, can be derived from the standardised or comparable death-rate with fair accuracy.* The product of this, multiplied by the annual number of births, will give the population that would be finally attained in that community if the yearly number of births and the death-rates remained constant; it gives, in fact, the "expectation of population" just as we reasoned this in the case of the imaginary ant-heaps.

Applying this to the local figures for some years back, we arrive at the following results:—

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* "The use of Death-rates as a Measure of Hygienic Conditions," by John Brownlie.

	Expectation of life at birth.	Average annual No. of births.	" Expectation of population."	Estimated actual population.	Ratio of expected to actual.
1909-13	55·7	267·2	14,870	10,509	1·42
1914-18	57·0	245·4	13,960	11,400	1·33
1919-23	60·4	331	19,990	15,450	1·29
1924-28	60·5	301·2	18,210	17,708	1·03
1929-33	60·8	301·4	18,300	20,314	0·90
1934-38	59·3	348	20,650	22,526	0·92

The last column in the table, giving the ratio of the expectation of population to the actual population at the time, shows that, while the population has steadily increased (largely owing to immigration), the trend of the locally produced population was upwards to about 1923, then nearly stationary until about 1928, and since that time slightly downwards. In the last period of five years the local population is not reproducing itself, but heading to a figure almost 2,000 less than the present one.

What of the future ? Is the population going to depend on the capacity of the influx of new residents to make good the local deficiency of self-reproduction ? Apart from immigration, change in population depends on two things : the annual number of children born and the expectation of life. This latter figure, apart from the last five years, has shown a steady, if moderate, improvement. Further prolongation of life is possible and will probably be accomplished, but not indefinitely, and the nearer the limit is approached the more difficult any further betterment will be. The annual number of births is conditioned by the number of possible mothers and the average number of children each of these has : since, of a considerable number of children born, almost half are girls, and that these, in something under twenty years, then enter the ranks of possible mothers, it is seen from the second column of the table that this reproductive group is now being recruited by greater numbers than formerly. Therefore if the average number of children born to each mother does not decline further the trend of the population will still be above the present expectation. It is obvious that if each married woman has two children only the population would decrease, for not every woman marries or has children, and the inescapeable pruning by death will reduce the numbers of children reaching the age to replace their parents ; three children for each married woman is said to be the minimum necessary to ensure a stationary population.

The fall in birth-rate is not, of course, merely a local or a national one. It has affected nearly all the countries inhabited by white races, and various remedies have been suggested and tried : bonuses for children, family allowances, loans for marriage, and so on. Germany has gone furthest in governmental attempts to reverse the decline in birth-rate, and of late years her birth-rate has shown the greatest increase from its lowest point. Her own statisticians, however, ascribe only one-third of the increase as possibly resulting from the monetary inducements offered, the larger share resulting from a change in national spirit. It would appear then that in this direction also there may be need of moral re-armament—a steady confidence in the future, with a readiness to give up for it present luxuries. It is the young, and particularly the young women, who will decide the matter.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
C. R. GIBSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Guisborough,
July 10th, 1939.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

	Borough of Redcar.	Guisborough Urban District.	Loftus Urban District.	Saltburn and Marske-by-the-Sea Urban District.	Skelton & Brotton Urban District.
A. *Whole-time Officers.*					
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. C. R. Gibson				
Medical Officer to Joint Isolation Hospital ...	Dr. C. R. Gibson				
Sanitary Inspectors ...	Mr. W. Tutin	Mr. R. H. Kilburn*	Mr. E. Hollis*	Mr. T. Young* until April 1938, then Mr. T. Grant*	Mr. R. Barry
Assis't Sanitary Inspectors	Mr. N. Hudson	Mr. F. A. Russell	–	Mr. J. R. Hall	—

*Also Surveyor for the District concerned.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 7,035.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1938 : 23,390.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate books : 6,783

Rateable Value : £142,769.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £522.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1938.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live births, legitimate	375	174	201	Birth Rate 16·8.
illegitimate	17	8	9	
Still-births	13	7	6	Rate per 1,000 total births, 32.
Deaths	312	163	149	Death-rate : 13·3.

Deaths in consequence of child-birth :

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total births.
(*a*) from sepsis	0	0
(*b*) from other causes	2	5·0
(*c*) total	2	5·0

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants, per 1,000 live births	56
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births	58½
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	4
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
,, ,, Diphtheria (all ages)	1
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	2
,, ,, Influenza (all ages)	6
,, ,, Pneumonia (all ages)	14
,, ,, Tuberculosis (all ages)	12
,, ,, Cancer (all ages)	52
,, ,, Heart disease (all ages)	63

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The Council have taken over, and are responsible for the maintenance of, the ambulance provided by the local division of the British Red Cross Society: it furnishes satisfactory facilities for the ordinary needs of the district.

No other development or change has occurred in the general services provided.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water: There have been no changes during the year in the water-supplies, which have been satisfactory in quality and quantity. The Ministry of Health's memorandum of March, 1938, dealing with the responsibility of water undertakers for proper precautions to ensure the safety of the supply, were carefully considered, and it was decided to keep medical history cards concerning all employees of the water department who might have access to the water before it reaches the consumer.

The Tees Valley Water Board, which supplies water to the western portion of the borough, invited medical officers of health of areas supplied by them to a conference on matters raised in the Ministry of Health's memorandum above referred to. The conference agreed on collaboration in the taking of water samples and the transmitting of information derived from such, and also that certain employees of the Board should be examined with respect to the detection of possible carriers of the enteric type of bacillus.

During the year eleven samples of water from the Redcar reservoir were submitted by the Water Department for full analysis: copies of the reports were supplied to me and I append a summary of the bacteriological findings:—

Samples of water from Redcar Reservoir Outlet, 1938.

Date samples taken	Jan. 20.	Mar. 3.	April 5.	May 4.	May 31.	July 5.	Sept. 6.	Oct. 5.	Oct. 19.	Nov. 8.	Dec. 7.
No. of bacteria per c.c.:											
(a) on agar in 3 days at 20°C.	2	3	4	1	5	3	5	170	5	16	6
(b) on agar in 2 days at 37°C.	1	2	4	0	4	1	4	8	2	8	4
B. Coli	Absent in 100 c.c.							Present in 20 c.c. Absent in 10 c.c.	Absent in 100 c.c.		
B. Enteritidis Sporogenes	Absent in 100 c.c.							Absent in 100 c.c.	Absent in 100 c.c.		

The slight inefficiency of the chlorination process shewn by the report on the sample taken October 5th was at once attended to and a further sample taken on October 19th showed the usual high organic purity.

Drainage and Sewerage: No extensions of sewerage have been made beyond those normally required to deal with new buildings.

Rivers and Streams: As the whole area of the district is almost flat and but a few feet above sea-level, the condition of the various stells requires constant supervision. One notice to cleanse and remove obstruction was served during the year.

Public Cleansing is referred to in the Sanitary Inspector's Report printed with this.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area: This is summarised in Table 5 in the Appendix and detailed in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Shops Act: Action under this is also given in the Inspector's Report.

Camping Sites: In April the Council agreed on conditions under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to be attached to all licences for Camping Sites.

Three such sites were used during the year: all of them were licensed under the above Act and it is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season was approximately one thousand.

Swimming Baths and Pools: There are three of these (one indoor and two outdoor) belonging to the Council, the indoor pool being mostly used. The treatment of the water to maintain its cleanliness has been as in former years.

The water in the indoor bath is continuously pumped round through a filtering and chlorinating plant: the amount of chlorine is carefully controlled and special tests taken each day from May 26th to June 2nd showed that at the outlet from the bath the amount of chlorine in the water was maintained at between 0·3 and 0·5 parts per million. A sample of the water was submitted for bacteriological examination, taken at 3-30 p.m. on June 8th at a point above the outlet and two feet below the surface of the water: the report showed 1,230 colonies on agar in 3 days at 22°C., 410 in 2 days at 37°C., No Bacillus Coli nor Streptococci found in 100 c.c., and no B. Enteritidis Sporogenes in 250 c.c., and the opinion appended was "clean and safe for bathing."

Eradication of Bed Bugs:

(1) Number of houses found infested:
  (*a*) Council houses: 5.
  (*b*) Other houses: 25.
(2) Infested houses are sprayed with Kilgercide followed by fumigation with Furmex.

(3) Houses of tenants who are about to remove into Conncil houses are inspected and, if necessary, disinfested.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by Council workmen.

(5) After disinfestation re-inspections are made, advice given, and where necessary the disinfestation process is repeated.

Schools: There was no school closure on account of infectious disease.

Housing.

The form giving information regarding housing inspections, results, etc., is given in Table 7, in the appendix.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply: Farms and dairies are inspected periodically and samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination.

Tabular Summary of Milk Examinations.

District.	No. of Registered Cowkeepers and Dairies.	No. of Samples submitted.	Bacterial count per c.c. under 10,000.	10,000— 30,000.	30,000— 100,000.	over 100,000.	Coliform bacilli in 1/100 c.c. Absent.	Present.
Redcar Borough ...	51	21	1	6	10	4	14	7
Guisborough U.D. ...	79	19	—	2	15	2	9	10
Loftus U.D. ...	63	6	—	3	3	—	5	1
Saltburn & Marske U.D.	23	23	—	8	11	4	12	11
Skelton & Brotton U.D.	115	33	1	6	23	3	24	9

Meat and other Foods: This is referred to in the Sanitary Inspector's report. The number of sheep and lambs and also of cattle, slaughtered within the borough is considerably less this year than last. The proportion of carcases wholly or practically condemned is about the same, viz. 2% of the cattle and under 1% of the pigs.

Adulteration, etc.: No action was taken by the local authority under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, this being administered by the County Council.

Shell-fish (Molluscan): I am informed that no shell-fish are marketed from layings in the borough. Mussels are sold in the district, for human consumption, from Morecambe, Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne and King's Lynn.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Scarlet fever was moderately prevalent during the year, with 109 cases, or 4·7 per thousand of population. It was particularly prevalent from May onwards to the end of the year, with the exception that in the months of August and of October, when there are school holidays, there were very few cases. The type generally, as of late years, was mild but there was one death, in a boy of 15 years of age, who developed septic endocarditis while under treatment in the Joint Isolation Hospital.

There were more cases of diphtheria notified than since 1934: a total of 36, or 1·6 per thousand of population, of these, one, in the early part of the year was bacteriologically negative, and two, in June, were cases from a military training camp in the district. Twenty-six of the cases occurred in the last four months of the year and a majority of these were connected with one school. The type generally was mild, there being one death, but there was a tendency for the bacilli to persist in the throat after convalescence. As little advantage, except at the inception of the scheme some years ago, was being taken of the offer of free immunisation against this disease, I recommended that a special effort to secure greater acceptance of this should be made. The Council approved and arrangements were made to have this done early in the current year.

One case of enteric fever (typhoid) in a visitor to the town was notified in August.

In September I received information that a child notified as suffering from infantile paralysis (acute poliomyelitis) in a neighbouring borough had been on holiday for four days in Redcar during the early part of his illness. Two cases of this disease were then discovered in the adjoining Saltburn & Marske Urban District. All medical practitioners were then notified of the presence of the disease in the neighbourhood. One case of this disease was notified in the borough in November, was removed to Isolation Hospital, and after a few days transferred, under arrangement with the County Medical Officer, to the Kirbymoorside Hospital for Crippled Children. In the Combined Districts there were in all eight cases: two in Saltburn and Marske, three in Guisborough, two in Skelton and Brotton, and one in this borough; one case ended fatally.

One fatal case of Cerebro-spinal Fever was also notified.

Of the non-notifiable infectious diseases reports from Schools showed that measles was very prevalent in April and May, and that there were some cases of whooping cough from September to November. The former disease was responsible for four deaths—one more than Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria combined have caused in three years. The fatal termination in measles is usually directly due to pneumonia and it is possible that the use of drugs recently discovered will save many of these children.

The number of patients admitted to the Joint Isolation Hospital from this and other districts is given in the following table for the twelve months ended March 31st, 1939, the figures in brackets being the admissions in the previous twelve months.

Joint Isolation Hospital.

Patients admitted April 1st, 1938, to March 31st, 1939.

	Redcar Borough.	Guisborough U.D.	Loftus U.D.	Saltburn & Marske U.D.	Skelton & Brotton U.D.	Other Districts.	Total.
Scartet Fever ...	72 (73)	12 (22)	13 (57)	11 (25)	20 (50)	—	128 (227)
Diphtheria ...	37 (8)	19 (2)	6 (11)	5 (1)	6 (10)	—	73 (32)
Enteric Fever ...	— (2)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (2)	—	1 (4)
Puerperal Fever...	— (2)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	—	1 (3)
Poliomyelitis ...	1	3	—	—	2	—	6 (0)
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	1 (0)
	110 (85)	34 (24)	20 (68)	16 (27)	29 (62)	1	210 (266)

Two deaths, in both cases from diphtheria, occurred in the hospital during the above period.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis in the borough was 22, of which ten were suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis; this compares with 39 new cases in 1938, and an average of 20 annually in the five years before that. There were 12 deaths from this disease, corresponding to a death-rate of 0·5 per thousand of population. A very satisfactory figure considering that a large proportion of new residents come to live in the borough because they have been in ill-health or suffering from known tuberculosis.

No action was taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936; no tuberculous person employed in the milk trade was discovered, and no action was required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year 1938,

by

W. TUTIN,

A.R.S.I., M.I.P.C., M.S.I.A., M.I.H.,
Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.
(R.S.I.) Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE
BOROUGH OF REDCAR.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my sixteenth Annual Report showing a statement of the work carried out by your Health Department during the year ended 31st December, 1938. This report is based on the Ministry of Health Circular No. 269 which calls for reports of a simple character, and more detailed reports (called Survey Reports) at intervals of not less than five years. This is an ordinary report.

Inspections. The following is a tabulated statement of the number of inspections made during the year under review:—

Total number of inspections	4,100
Total number of re-inspections	4,562
Total number of nuisances found	2,103
Total number of nuisances abated	2,097
Total number of Informal Notices (including verbal and written notices)	2,069
Total number of Statutory Notices	Nil
Total number of Informal Notices complied with ...	2,058
Total number of Statutory Notices complied with ...	Nil
Total number of Informal Notices outstanding ...	11
Total nnmber of Statutory Notices outstanding ...	Nil

Sanitary Works and Improvements.

Dilapidated dustbins ...	292
Choked drains	242
Choked and defective eave spouts	202
Choked sewers	41
Defective flushing apparatus ...	24
Keeping of animals, poultry, etc. in an insanitary condition ...	12
Defective construction of drains ...	14
Dirty condition of dwellinghouses	62
Dirty condition of water-closets, urinals, etc.	60
Accumulation of rubbish ...	64
Defective roofs	30
Insanitary stable premises ...	3
Defective w.c. basins ...	15
Overcrowded condition of premises	11
Choked and defective rain-water pipes	64
Broken plasterwork	130
Premises in need of lime-washing	17
Offensive smells	62
Dirty condition of yards ...	16
Defective floors of dwellinghouses	30
Defective and insanitary condition of sinks	11
Choked and defective waste pipes	16
Defective and dangerous condition of outbuildings	8
Insufficient sink accommodation	19
Dirty condition of cowsheds ...	4

Choked street gullies ...	23
Defective paving of yards ...	43
Defective set-pots	32
Defective fireplaces	19
Premises in a verminous condition	30
Defective construction of windows	62
External walls requiring repointing	181
Dampness of dwellinghouses ...	110
Total ...	1,949

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

Number of infected houses inspected	142
Number of infected houses disinfected	142
Number of infected schools disinfected ...	16
Number of infected classrooms disinfected ...	80

Factories and Workshops.

Number of inspections of Factories and Workshops	72
Number of nuisances found	19
Number of nuisances abated	19
Number of complaints from H.M. Inspector ...	4

Offensive Trades.

Offensive Trades on the register at the end of the year were:

Fish-frying	16
Number of inspections made on these premises ...	110
Number of nuisances found and dealt with ...	17
Added to Register	Nil

Bakehouses.

Number of Bakehouses on Register	60
Number of notifications received from H.M. Inspector	3
Number of notifications dealt with	3
Number of Bakehouses added to Register ...	4
Number of Bakehouses removed from Register ...	2
Number of nuisances discovered and dealt with ...	12
Number of inspections	98

Slaughterhouses.

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses on Register	5
Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses on Register ...	6
Number of inspections of Slaughterhouses ...	3,046
Number of nuisances discovered and dealt with ...	59
Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses added to Register	Nil
Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses taken off Register	Nil

Cowsheds.

Number of Cowkeepers within the Borough ...	8
Number of Cowsheds within the Borough ...	16
Number of Registered Cowkeepers	8
Number discontinued during the year	Nil
Number registered during the year	1
Number of inspections	78
Number of notices dealt with	9

Dairies and Milkshops.

Number on Register	35
Number discontined during year	1
Number registered during year	1
Number of inspections	179
Number of notices dealt with	14

Public Conveniences. During the year all the public conveniences have been cleansed and disinfected daily. No additional conveniences have been provided, although arrangements are well in hand to reconstruct the public conveniences known as Swiss Cottage on the sea front, in order to increase the accommodation to cope with the largely increased population during the summer season.

Water Supply. The Borough of Redcar obtains its water supply from four sources: the Tees Valley Water Board, the Cleveland Water Company, the Worts Well Spring and the Adit at Upleatham.

Dormanstown, Warrenby and the western portion of Coatham are supplied with Tees Valley water, while the remainder of the Borough draws its supply from the ten million gallon reservoir at Upleatham. This reservoir is fed by the Spring, the Adit, and water purchased in bulk from the Cleveland Water Company.

Before entering the reservoir, these three supplies are mixed and chloraminated, the dosage being regulated so as to provide a residual at all times. The water is filtered after leaving the reservoir before being supplied to the town.

Chemical and bacteriological examinations are performed monthly by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Queen Victoria Street, London, and these examinations have shown the continued purity and wholesomeness of the water.

Summer Camps. In Redcar we have three summer camping grounds. These are licensed under Section 269 of the 1936 Public Health Act, and accommodate approximately 900 campers at a time. The camps are usually occupied for about four months in each year. They have proper sanitary conveniences and are all on the water carriage system. The camps are all well managed.

Markets. We have one Market, held one day per week (Saturday). This is held in the open. Periodical inspections are carried out during market hours, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., with a view to detecting unsound food and uncleanliness. We are fortunate to have only two open stalls for butchers' meat. Both these stalls comply with the Meat Regulations of 1924. The remainder of the market has been carried out on satisfactory lines.

Meat and Food Inspections. Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. 46 slaughtermen are registered in the Borough under the above Act. The requirements of the Act have been well observed amongst the butchers. Three prosecutions were instituted against slaughtermen for slaughtering animals by means of instruments other than mechanically operated instruments. In each case fines were imposed.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. Under these regulations we receive notice of slaughter of all animals intended for human consumption. By this method we are able to inspect carcases before they are deposited in the butchers' shops.

We have in Redcar 27 butchers' shops. I am happy to say that in all cases the shops are fitted with closed fronts and contamination from dust and dirt is considerably reduced. Butchers' shops where smalls are manufactured and shops where foodstuffs are stored have received attention.

The following animals have been slaughtered and inspected.

	Cattle (excluding Cows).	*Cows.*	*Calves.*	*Sheep and Lambs.*	*Pigs.*
Slaughtered	2019	7	375	728	2386
Inspected	2019	7	375	728	2386
Carcases Condemned.					
(*a*) *All diseases except Tuberculosis :*					
Whole carcase condemned ...	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organs condemned ...	32	—	—	1	8
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	1·53%	—	—	·026%	·33%
(*b*) *Tuberculosis only :*					
Whole carcase condemned ...	3	—	—	—	7
Carcases of which some part or organs condemned ...	7	—	—	—	6
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	·48%	—	—	—	·54%

The following is a list of meat condemned during the year:—

	Approximate Weight
Beef	2,202 lbs.
Pork	957 lbs.
Mutton	56 lbs.
Rabbits	101 lbs.
Canned Food	148 lbs.
Fish	269·5 lbs.
	3,733·5 lbs.

All the above articles were voluntarily surrendered, therefore no statutory action was necessary.

Shell-Fish (including Crabs and Lobsters).

Mussels sold in this district for human consumption are imported from Morecambe, Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and King's Lynn, Norfolk. All shell-fish derived from Redcar area is sold for bait only, except lobsters, small consignments of which are made to London.

Eradication of Bed Bugs, etc. During the winter 30 complaints were received of houses (5 Council and 25 private) being infested with bugs, fleas, etc. In all cases the houses were disinfected by spraying with "Kilgercide," followed immediately by fumigating with "Furmex." The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Council's workmen. Reinspection of infested property takes place usually two to three weeks after the first treatment, and if necessary treated for the second time. In only two cases has a second treatment been necessary during the year.

Shops Acts. Regular inspections have been carried out during the year of the shops in the Borough with a view to seeing the requirements of the sanitary provisions of the above Acts were being observed. The following is a summary of defects found and remedied.

	Number Inspected.	*Number Remedied.*	*Number Outstanding.*
Rooms not at reasonable temperature	7	7	0
Lack of Ventilation	4	4	0
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	6	6	0
Lack of accommodation for taking meals	8	7	1
Insufficient washing accommodation	4	4	0
Seats not provided for assistants	5	5	0

In all cases I have found a willingness to comply with my request without having to take any formal action.

The outstanding work is in hand at the year end.

Rat and Mice Destruction Act, 1919. During the year the powers under the above Act were delegated to the Borough Council; in the past the duty under this Act fell upon the County Council. 30 complaints were received, necessitating visits to rat-infested premises within the Borough. Advice has been given to occupiers of such premises and every assistance given, including the laying of bait (non-phosphorus).

In all cases where complaints are received the drains are inspected and tested and where found defective the necessary repair work is carried out.

Closet Accommodation. The whole of the Borough is on the water carriage system with the exception of 14 houses at Kirkleatham. This area was taken into the Borough after the completion of our general conversion scheme. There are also 12 pan-closets in use at the Warrenby Ironworks. No sewer is available in this part.

During the year 24 conversions were carried out at the racecourse.

Sewerage. No extension of the main sewerage scheme took place during the year.

Public Cleansing.

During the year no change in policy has taken place in your Cleansing Department. This service includes Refuse Collection, Refuse Disposal, Street Cleansing, Gully Cleansing, Sewer Flushing and Snow Removal.

Refuse Collection. Galvanised iron receptacles of 2 cubic feet capacity are in general use. A weekly collection takes place from all dwellinghouses and shops, whereas refuse of a more offensive nature from hotels, cafes and fish shops is collected twice per week during winter months and four times per week during the summer months. The work is carried out by motor transport as follows:—

1 Karrier Collecting Vehicle of 12 cubic yards capacity (purchased 1938).
1 S.D. Freighter of 10 cubic yards capacity (purchased 1935).
2 S.D. Freighters of 7 cubic yards capacity each (purchased 1929 and 1930).

The Borough is divided into four districts for the collection service, each vehicle being allocateed one area with a team of four loadmen and one driver to each. Trade refuse is collected by the two larger vehicles and no charge made for this service. In view of the change in recent legislation the question of making a charge for this service will have to be considered.

Refuse Disposal. All refuse, including trade refuse, is disposed of by controlled tipping on a site of low-lying land situated along the Trunk Road, with an average haul of 1½ miles from central collecting area. This tipping ground will serve our needs for a number of years to come. Four men are engaged on this tip.

Street Cleansing. The total mileage of roads to be cleansed is 42·37 miles, which includes 8·36 miles of County Roads for which a grant is made by the North Riding County Council.

The Cleansing Service is as follows :—

Swept once or more daily (including Sundays) ...	25·6 miles.
Three times weekly	6·25 miles.
Twice weekly	3·27 miles.
At least once weekly	7·25 miles.

In addition there are some two miles of unadopted streets and back passages wnich receive litter tidying and gully cleansing service. The whole of the cleansing service is carried out on the beat system, each man being responsible for his allotted area. The size of each man's area varies in accordance with mileage importance, regard being given to traffic conditions and type of property. Being a seaside town, special cleansing service takes place during the summer months, when the sweepers commence duty at 6 a.m. in order to have all cleaned up before visitors arrive. Collection of sweepings is made by the refuse collecting vehicles which make contact with the beat men at intervals. Temporary depositing depots are also visited by the vehicles and all sweepings are disposed of along with other town refuse. A special Sunday morning cleansing service is given to the shopping centre and side streets.

Gully Cleansing. All street gullies are cleansed by mechanical vacuum process. There are 3,057 gullies in the Borough. These have been regularly cleansed by the gully cleansing machine, which is used on an average four days per week for this service. The remainder of the week is taken up by sewer flushing duties. During the year there was no sewer stoppage worthy of mention. This was mainly due to the constant attention and the regular flushing of the sewers.

Street Watering. Owing to the present day condition of the road surfaces and fast moving traffic, very little street watering is necessary except in windy weather. During the summer months the channels of our main roads are sprayed with the gully cleansing machine.

Costing. The Ministry of Health requests all Local Authorities with a population of 20,000 and over to submit details of their annual costs for all the above services For this purpose the year ends on the 31st day of March, and in this respect differs from the main body of this report.

The following is an extract of the Annual Cleansing Costs for the year ending 31st March, 1939 :—

Refuse Collection.

Total number of Loads Collected ...	5,099
Total estimated tonnage collected ...	8,512·5 tons.
Weight of Refuse per 1,000 population per day	18·2 cwts.
Net cost per ton collected	8/2·6d.
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	£139 19 8·8d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	£449 16 6·48d.

Refuse Disposal.

Net cost per ton disposed	1/9·1d.
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	£29 19 9·2d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises	£96 7 3·12d.

Street Sweeping and Gully Cleansing.

Total sq. yds. of surface cleansed during the year	96,544,200
Net cost per 10,000 sq. yds. cleansed ...	4/8·7d.
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	£91 4 4·1d.
Total number of gullies cleansed during the year	24,440
Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed ...	£16 19 0·49d.
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	£16 15 9·6d.

Comparative Costing Statement.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Class of Authority.	Cost per Ton.		Cost per 1,000 premises.		Cost per 1,000 population	
	Collection.	*Disposal.*	*Collection.*	*Disposal.*	*Collection.*	*Disposal.*
Towns similar to Redcar	8/8	3/-	£482	£236	£154	£45
Redcar	8/2·6d.	1/9·1d.	£449/16/6·48d.	£96/7/3·12d.	£139/19/8·8d	£29/19/9·2d.

Street Cleansing.

Class of Authority.	Cost per 10,000 sq. yds.	Cost per 1,000 Population.
Towns similar to Redcar ...	9/3·6d.	£119/2/0
Redcar	4/8·7d.	£91/4/4·1d.

Gully Cleansing.

Class of Authority.	Per 1,000 Gullies.	Per 1,000 Population.
Towns similar to Redcar ...	£16/1/0	£16/2/3·69
Redcar	£16/19/0·49d.	£16/15/9·6

The basis of this report is as follows :—

Estimated population	25,000
Number of premises	7,780
Tonnage collected (Estimated) ...	8,512·5 tons.
Cost of Refuse collection	£3,499/13/4
Cost of Refuse disposal	£749/14/3
Cost of Street Cleansing	£2,280/8/7
Cost of Gully Cleansing	£414/15/3

In conclusion I wish to express my deep appreciation of the support received during the year from my Chairman and the Members of the Health Committee, and my best thanks to the Members of the staff for their continued loyalty and assistance during the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
W. TUTIN,
Chief Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

APPENDIX.

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3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1938.

	All Ages	Under 1	1 year	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65—	Cases admitted to Hosp.	Total deaths
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	109	—	2	3	5	3	52	23	16	3	2	—	—	73	1
Diphtheria ...	36	—	—	—	2	3	18	5	5	1	—	1	—	30	1
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ...	27	—	1	—	2	—	8	—	1	5	1	7	2	—	14
Erysipelas ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

4. TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5—9 years ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
10—14 years ...	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
15—19 years ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
20—24 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—34 years ...	2	3	2	1	1	2	—	—
35—44 years ...	1	—	—	1	1	3	—	—
45—54 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
All Ages ...	5	5	6	6	2	8	—	2

Two of the fatal cases unnotified, dying outside the district.

5. ABSTRACT OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

	Number dealt with.	Informal Notices.	Statutory Notices.	Result.	Remarks.
Nuisances	2103	2069		11 Informal Notices Outstanding	
Slaughterhouses	11	59	Nil	Compliance	
Dairies and Cowsheds	51	23	Nil	,,	
Bakehouses	60	12	Nil	,,	
Factories and Workshops (other than Bakehouses)	72	19	Nil	,,	
Offensive Trades	15	17	Nil	,	15 Fish Shops 1 Rag and Bone Dealer
Shops	—	34	Nil	1 Informal Notice Outstanding	
Music Halls, Cinemas, etc.	4	7	Nil	,,	—
Premises disinfected	172	—	—	—	142 Infectious Diseases 30 Verminous Premises

6. LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS.

	Borough of Redcar.	Guisborough Urban District.	Loftus Urban District.	Saltburn and Marske-by-Sea Urban District.	Skelton and Brotton Urban District.	Total.
Sputa examined for Tubercle bacilli	47	24	15	11	19	116
Sputa found positive	9	5	3	—	4	21
Swabs from Diphtheria suspects examined ...	89	51	32	12	30	214
Swabs from Diphtheria suspects found positive	34	25	12	3	13	87
Swabs from Diphtheria convalescents examined	110	52	39	12	58	271
Swabs from Diphtheria contacts examined ...	13	21	6	7	12	59
Blood examined for Enteric group (Widal Test)	2	—	2	—	1	5
Faeces. for Enteric group	2	—	2	—	3	7
Other examinations	1	—	—	2	2	5
Diphtheria Antitoxin issued by Local Authority	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

7. HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses completed in 1938:

(*a*) Council	Nil
(*b*) Other	283

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :*

(1) (*a*) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	186
(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	342
(2) (*a*) Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	121
(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose	252
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	71

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :*

(1) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	71
(2) Number of dwellinghouses where work is in progress but not yet completed	Nil
(3) Number of Notices in course of preparation (not yet served)	Nil
(4) Number of Notices outstanding	Nil

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(*a*) By owners	Nil
(*b*) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(*a*) By owners	Nil
(*b*) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Housing Act, 1935. *Overcrowding :*

(*a*)	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	11
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	11
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	75
(*b*)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(*c*)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	8
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	59
(*d*)		Particulars of cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

8. SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Period.	Population.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths at Ages.		Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	Yearly Birth-rate.	Yearly Death-rate.	Infant Mortality Rate (Infant deaths per thousand births.
				Under 1 year.	1—4 years.				
1899—1903	7,695	1022	582	127	50	—	26·6	15·1	124
1904—1908	8,900	1216	605	131	38	42	27·3	13·6	108
1909—1913	10,509	1336	668	132	73	56	25·4	12·7	99
1914—1918	11,400	1227	685	90	—	61	21·5	12 0	73
1919—1923	15,450	1655	803	133	65	59	22 3	10·8	80
1924—1928	17,708	1506	935	99	58	68	17·0	10·5	66
1929—1933	20,314	1507	1155	86	55	59	14·8	11·4	57
1934	21,680	322	238	14	11	10	14·8	11·0	43½
1935	22,010	321	237	22	5	9	14·6	10·8	68½
1936	22,500	360	288	19	5	12	16·0	12 8	53
1937	23,050	345	277	18	6	11	14·9	12·0	52
1938	23,390	392	312	22	7	12	16·8	13·3	56
1934—1938	22,526	1740	1352	95	34	54	15·5	12·0	54½

9.—Factory and Workshops Act 1901, Factories Act 1937.

REPORT FOR 1938

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written notices.	Number of Occupier's prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power ...	30	11	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	14	3	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including out-workers' premises	4	1	—
Total	48	15	—

2.—Defects found.

Particulars.		Number of defects Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)		4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)		—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ...		1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...		2	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...		4	4	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	Insufficient ...	1	1	—	—
	Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
	Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other offences		—	—	—	—
Total		15	15	nil	nil

3.—Outwork in unwholesome premises: nil.